



## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending October 26, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 26, 2003**. Throughout much of the State cotton and soybean harvest was halted due to moderate rainfall late in the week. Most producers are awaiting drier weather and improved field conditions in order to complete harvest activities for the season. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 18 percent short, 54 percent adequate and 26 percent surplus.

| Progress In Percentages |                 |           |           |      |          | Conditions in Percentages |      |      |      |           |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Item                    | Event           | This Week | Last Week | 2002 | 5-Yr Avg | Very Poor                 | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Cotton                  | Harvested       | 85        | 71        | 51   | 81       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Rice                    | Harvested       | 99        | 97        | 93   | 96       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Soybeans                | Shedding Leaves | 100       | 99        | 100  | 100      | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
|                         | Harvested       | 92        | 89        | 74   | 87       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Wheat                   | Planted         | 75        | 56        | 27   | 48       | 0                         | 1    | 16   | 65   | 18        |
|                         | Emerged         | 54        | 41        | 5    | 22       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Sweetpotatoes           | Harvested       | 95        | 91        | 85   | 88       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Cattle                  |                 |           |           |      |          | 0                         | 7    | 26   | 56   | 11        |
| Pasture                 |                 |           |           |      |          | 3                         | 15   | 33   | 43   | 6         |

### County Agent Comments

"Cotton harvesting got started this week with lower yields than last year. Many bolls are still unopened. Soybean yields are mixed. Fall pastures are very good. Hay harvesting is completed for the year."

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss

"Soybean and cotton harvesting was halted due rain and overcast weather. We still need about two to three days to complete harvesting. Some of the soybeans are beginning to rot and fall out of the pods before combines can get to them. Pastures are in fairly good shape."

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

"Harvest conditions are great, the peanuts should finish in the next two weeks and cotton should not be far behind. The pastures are looking rough and if we don't get a good rain this weekend some of the winter pasture will have to be replanted."

— Mike Steede, George

"Cattle are in good shape but grass is getting short and quality is poor. Ryegrass planting has halted until we get a rain. Hay supply seems to be good right now."

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

"Dry weather early in the week allowed producers to continue bean harvest. Rain over the weekend was welcomed by those planting winter grazing. Most beans have been harvested now. Some winter grazing is being sprayed for weeds. I have seen one case of blast on early ryegrass."

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Once again, rain in various amounts stopped what little harvest is left to be gotten. Crop yields are record or near record in cotton, soybean and grain sorghum. Rice yields are good but not as good as in 2002.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Growers had three to four good days of weather to make harvesting this past week a luxury. The rains and overcast weather have stopped them for now. Fall seeded crops needed the moisture however. Cotton and soybean harvesting will resume before the end of next week, unless the predicted rain this weekend causes havoc.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“The rain stopped all harvesting. Most of our crops are out of the field and yields have been very good. This time last year we were leaving ruts in the fields. This year land is being rowed-up and land planes are running to get the ground ready for next year.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Rains fell across the county Saturday night and temperatures fell sharply. The rain stopped cotton and bean harvest, but should help wheat producers. Amounts varied from one to two inches.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Light showers kept us out of the fields for just a few hours early in the week but we got a full week of harvest in. Yields are still holding up at record levels. Most producers are happy with the yield. Although the wet spring kept them from getting all the cotton in that they wanted, it was still a real good year. It looks like prices are going to help out too.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Rain delayed all field work for a few days. Harvest will continue when field conditions improve.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Cotton picking has really gone well this week. Many producers have finished the first round with a little scrapping to be done. The only beans left are some late group V's.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Growers had four good days of harvesting this past week. Rains over the weekend slowed the work. Harvesting should resume early this week. We had light rains and cooler temperatures have arrived.”

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Scattered showers came in, but not enough to get forages really going. Armyworms are causing some damage. Turnips and collards will be ready for the market soon.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Rain Saturday night helped our ryegrass situation – some areas got an inch and a half. Cotton harvest is almost complete.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“We got much needed rain early Sunday morning, some less than a tenth of an inch, some as much as two inches.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Rain over the weekend has helped winter pastures that were short of moisture.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
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**Weather Summary from October 20, 2003 to October 26, 2003 for Mississippi**

| District/Station | Air Temperature |     |     |      |     | Precipitation |       |           |            | 4 Inch Soil Temperature |     |     | Avg Pan Evap |
|------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
|                  | Max             | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week      | DFN   | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max                     | Min | Avg |              |
| 1. Upper Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Charleston       |                 |     |     | 60   |     | 0.30E         | -0.46 | 1         | 2.19E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Cleveland        |                 |     |     | 61   |     | 0.75          | +0.09 | 1         | 1.72       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tunica           | 89              | 52  | 70  | 60   | +10 | 0.48          | -0.35 | 1         | 2.76       | 74                      | 60  | 68  | 0.19         |
| Extreme/Average  | 89              | 52  | 70  | 61   | +9  | 0.51          | -0.25 | 1         | 2.22       | 74                      | 60  | 68  | 0.19         |
| 2. North-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Batesville       | 88              | 48  | 68  | 59   | +9  | 0.23          | -0.62 | 1         | 0.65       |                         |     |     |              |
| Calhoun City     | 86              | 46  | 66  | 60   | +6  | 2.74          | +2.06 | 1         | 5.13       |                         |     |     |              |
| Independence     | 85              | 45  | 65  | 58   | +7  | 0.81          | +0.08 | 1         | 2.08       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oxford           | 88              | 46  | 67  | 58   | +9  | 0.47          | -0.42 | 1         | 2.76       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 88              | 45  | 66  | 59   | +7  | 1.06          | +0.30 | 1         | 2.66       |                         |     |     |              |
| 3. Northeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Booneville       | 80              | 49  | 65  | 58   | +7  | 1.56          | +0.76 | 1         | 3.16       |                         |     |     |              |
| Corinth City     | 86              | 43  | 66  | 60   | +6  | 1.70          | +0.94 | 1         | 2.55       |                         |     |     |              |
| Iuka             | 83              | 37  | 62  | 56   | +6  | 1.27          | +0.46 | 1         | 1.80       |                         |     |     |              |
| Ripley           | 81              | 44  | 63  | 57   | +6  | 1.04          | +0.25 | 1         | 2.87       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tupelo           | 85              | 49  | 67  |      |     | 2.19E         |       | 1         | 3.68E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Verona           |                 |     |     | 59   |     | 2.91          | +2.23 | 1         | 4.05       |                         |     |     | 0.20         |
| Extreme/Average  | 86              | 37  | 65  | 59   | +6  | 1.55          | +0.76 | 1         | 2.81       |                         |     |     |              |
| 4. Lower Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Belzoni          |                 |     |     | 62   |     | 0.80E         | -0.12 | 1         | 3.30E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Rolling Fork     | 92              | 46  | 69  | 62   | +7  | 1.00          | +0.06 | 1         | 1.65       | 85                      | 64  | 76  |              |
| Stoneville       | 91              | 51  | 72  | 62   | +10 | 2.28          | +1.50 | 1         | 3.97       | 83                      | 62  | 73  | 0.17         |
| Yazoo City       | 89              | 47  | 69  | 63   | +6  | 0.94          | -0.07 | 1         | 1.70       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 92              | 46  | 70  | 62   | +8  | 1.26          | +0.42 | 1         | 2.66       | 85                      | 62  | 74  | 0.17         |
| 5. Central       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Canton           | 87              | 46  | 67  | 62   | +5  | 0.41          | -0.44 | 1         | 2.54       |                         |     |     |              |
| Carthage         | 87              | 44  | 67  | 61   | +6  | 1.11          | +0.31 | 1         | 2.62       |                         |     |     |              |
| Lexington        | 88              | 43  | 66  | 61   | +5  | 0.76          | -0.11 | 1         | 3.67       |                         |     |     |              |
| Eupora           | 89              | 45  | 67  | 59   | +8  | 1.30          | +0.45 | 1         | 3.06       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 89              | 43  | 66  | 61   | +5  | 0.90          | +0.10 | 1         | 2.97       |                         |     |     |              |
| 6. East-Central  |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Aberdeen         | 85              | 45  | 66  | 60   | +6  | 1.50          | +0.65 | 1         | 2.86       |                         |     |     | 0.12         |
| Houston          | 84              | 39  | 63  | 58   | +5  | 1.30          | +0.56 | 1         | 2.70       |                         |     |     |              |
| Louisville       | 86              | 48  | 68  | 60   | +8  | 0.91          | +0.10 | 1         | 3.79       |                         |     |     |              |
| State University | 87              | 45  | 68  | 60   | +8  | 1.23          | +0.44 | 1         | 3.28       | 72                      | 64  | 68  | 0.10         |
| Extreme/Average  | 87              | 39  | 66  | 61   | +5  | 1.24          | +0.49 | 1         | 3.16       | 72                      | 64  | 68  | 0.11         |
| 7. Southwest     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Crystal Springs  | 88              | 50  | 70  | 64   | +6  | 0.62          | -0.10 | 1         | 0.98       | 85                      | 63  | 76  |              |
| Natchez          | 89              | 46  | 68  | 65   | +3  | 0.97          | +0.03 | 1         | 2.46       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oakley           |                 |     |     | 62   |     | 0.50          | -0.35 | 1         | 1.01       |                         |     |     |              |
| Vicksburg        | 89              | 46  | 69  |      |     | 0.70          |       | 1         | 2.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 89              | 46  | 69  | 64   | +5  | 0.70          | -0.14 | 1         | 1.64       | 85                      | 63  | 76  |              |
| 8. South-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Collins          | 89              | 48  | 69  | 62   | +7  | 1.07          | +0.26 | 1         | 1.50       |                         |     |     |              |
| Columbia         | 91              | 49  | 71  | 64   | +7  | 1.04          | +0.25 | 1         | 1.26       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tylertown        | 90              | 47  | 70  | 65   | +5  | 2.00          | +1.11 | 1         | 2.70       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 91              | 47  | 70  | 63   | +7  | 1.37          | +0.64 | 1         | 1.82       |                         |     |     |              |
| 9. Southeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Beaumont         | 90              | 45  | 68  |      |     | 0.15          |       | 1         | 0.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| Hattiesburg      | 89              | 49  | 70  | 64   | +6  | 0.63          | -0.20 | 1         | 0.79       |                         |     |     |              |
| Laurel           | 89              | 48  | 68  | 62   | +6  | 0.91          | +0.19 | 1         | 1.22       |                         |     |     |              |
| Newton           | 88              | 44  | 66  | 60   | +6  | 0.73          | -0.10 | 1         | 2.89       | 74                      | 57  | 66  | 0.13         |
| Extreme/Average  | 90              | 44  | 68  | 62   | +6  | 0.61          | -0.09 | 1         | 1.35       | 74                      | 57  | 66  | 0.13         |
| 10. Coastal      |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Bay St Louis     |                 |     |     | 65   |     | 0.05          | -0.67 | 1         | 1.83       |                         |     |     |              |
| Gulfport         | 86              |     | 42  | 67   |     | 0.04          | -0.51 | 1         | 2.69       |                         |     |     |              |
| Pascagoula       | 86              | 52  | 69  | 65   | +4  | 0.15          | -0.61 | 1         | 1.46       |                         |     |     |              |
| Poplarville      |                 |     |     | 65   |     | 0.00          | -0.79 | 0         | 0.00       |                         |     |     | 0.37         |
| Waveland         | 87              | 52  | 71  | 65   | +6  | 0.00          | -0.53 | 0         | 0.69       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 87              | 52  | 61  | 66   | -5  | 0.05          | -0.58 | 1         | 1.67       |                         |     |     | 0.37         |
| State            | 92              | 37  | 67  | 62   | +5  | 0.93          | +0.17 | 1         | 2.28       | 85                      | 57  | 71  | 0.14         |

DFN = Departure from Normal.